

Walsh orders halt to building projects; stock markets in another freefall

■ TRUMP RELEASES GUIDELINES ■ S.F. RESTRICTS MOVEMENT
■ VACCINE TRIAL ADVANCES D1 ■ SCHOOLS SET TO CLOSE B1

HOW LONG?

Get used to living our lives apart

Separation will need to be lengthy, warn scientists

By Deanna Pan
GLOBE STAFF

"It's going to get worse before it gets better."

No, it's not reassuring. But that's the message from epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and infectious disease doctors, who have been sounding the alarm for weeks about the growing threat of the novel coronavirus and the dire consequences the United States will undoubtedly face if the spread of the disease, Covid-19, is not aggressively tamed.

"This virus will not be conquered until we have a vaccine — period. It's just so unstoppable," said Dr. Eric Feigl-Ding, an epidemiologist and senior fellow at the Federation of American Scientists, a nonpartisan think tank based in Washington, D.C. "We're in this tough spot for the long haul."

DURATION, Page A7

TESTING

Screening ramps up, but still misses goal

By Andrew Ryan and Kay Lazar
GLOBE STAFF

Screening for the coronavirus has continued to ramp up in Massachusetts in recent days, with drive-through testing stations operating in Hyannis and Middleton, as Governor Charlie Baker's administration began providing more data about the scope of its efforts to track and slow the pandemic.

But even as private labs helped increase capacity, the state remained far below the 1,000 tests a day public health experts warned were necessary to assess the full extent of Covid-19's spread. The state's increased transparency did offer a fuller picture of efforts to track and diagnose the virus.

The Department of Public Health announced that 327 more people had been screened for coronavirus in the last day as of Monday morning, increasing the total number of people tested statewide to 1,296 since Feb. 28. The new figures included 204 tests performed by private laboratories operated by Quest Diagnostics and LabCorp.

TESTING, Page A10

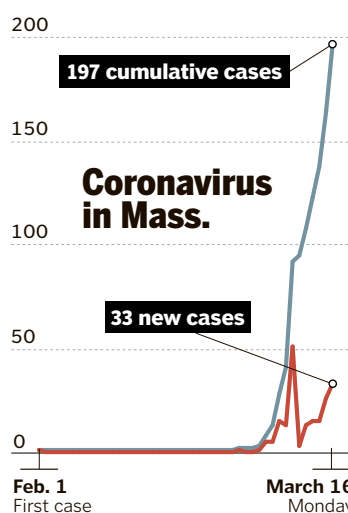


SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

At the Deluxe Town Diner in Watertown, waitress Emilia Coelho said goodbye to her regular customers Monday.



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF



School children in East Boston raced for their buses as they begin a prolonged absence from the classroom.

RESTAURANTS

For workers and owners, order is a stunning blow

SHIRLEY LEUNG

Starting Tuesday, the bottom will really fall out for the restaurant industry.

After days and weeks of mounting fear about coronavirus keeping people home, all restaurants and bars must stop dine-in operations, by order of Governor Charlie Baker, until April 6.

The only food they can serve has to be through takeout or delivery services. And liquor sales — a major part of their revenue — is out altogether.

Restaurateurs I talked to fully back Baker's decision, but it's a financial devastating decision that overnight means many of the 300,000 people working in the Massachusetts restaurant industry could be temporarily out of jobs. Many establishments are expected to close their doors for the next three weeks, unless they already had a robust takeout and delivery operation.

Chris Jamison, who runs a restaurant group that includes Yvonne's and Lolita, shut down all six Boston locations on Monday and began the process of letting go

LEUNG, Page D4



JIM DAVIS GLOBE STAFF

"The coronavirus is one of the greatest public health challenges our city has ever faced," Mayor Martin J. Walsh said at a news conference.

HEALTH CARE

Hospitals say 2 more staff infected

By Liz Kowalczyk and Priyanka Dayal McCluskey
GLOBE STAFF

A health care provider at Massachusetts General Hospital and another at Massachusetts Eye and Ear have tested positive for coronavirus, bringing to four the number of Boston hospital workers who see patients known to be infected.

Neither hospital would identify the individuals or their specific jobs, but

officials said the providers are both in isolation at home and doing well. The Globe reported this past weekend that two doctors at Brigham and Women's Hospital have also contracted the virus and are in home quarantine.

The number of infected health care workers is growing around the country and is expected to keep climbing, which eventually could lead to shortages in a front-line workforce vital to

HOSPITALS, Page A10

T reduces service as life in city retreats

By Zoe Greenberg, Tim Logan and Martin Finucane
GLOBE STAFF

The staggering scope of the coronavirus pandemic came into increasingly stark focus Monday as the MBTA announced it would cut back on service, schools across the state prepared to close for weeks, and Boston ordered a halt to major business and city construction projects, bringing a longtime building boom to a standstill.

"The coronavirus is one of the greatest public health challenges our city has ever faced," Mayor Martin J. Walsh said at a City Hall news conference.

The number of cases in the state climbed to 197, up from 164 on Sunday, as the pace of testing accelerated. The state Department of Public Health said that nearly 1,300 coronavirus tests had yielded 189 positives. The other eight positives came from tests by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

More than half of the positive tests are related to a conference last month by the biotech firm Biogen. No one has died from the virus in Massachusetts. Nationally, at least 80 people have died, and the global death toll has surpassed 7,100.

Health care providers at Massachusetts General Hospital and Massachusetts Eye and Ear have tested positive, the hospitals said, and dozens of health care workers who may have been exposed are in quarantine. Two doctors at Brigham and Women's Hospital have al

CORONAVIRUS, Page A7

ECONOMY

Markets collapse as states order more shutdowns

GLOBE NEWS SERVICES

Financial markets cratered Monday, as investors were confronted with evidence that a steep decline in the world's largest economies may have already begun and President Trump warned the coronavirus crisis might not abate until mid-summer.

In Washington and around the world, heads of state ordered extraordinary shutdowns as they struggled to find methods that would contain the coronavirus that has already sickened 181,000 people worldwide and led to more than 7,100 deaths. Even the Summer Olympics were in doubt.

The Trump administration Monday released new guidelines for the public to slow the spread of the coronavirus, including closing schools and avoiding groups of more than 10 people, discretionary travel, bars, restaurants, and food courts.

Many states and localities had already acted, or were taking even more drastic steps. In California, seven counties in the San Francisco Bay Area ordered nearly 7 million residents to stay inside, allowing them to venture out only for necessities during a three-week period starting Tuesday.

The new measures reflected the increasing gravity of global attempts to contain the virus as governments around the world, from Canada to

REACTION, Page A6



In the news

Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell has been reaching out to Republican-nominated judges who are eligible to retire to urge them to step down

so they can be replaced while the party still holds the Senate and the White House. **A2.**

Ohio called off its primary election; Florida and two other states vow to proceed Tuesday. **A5.**

Gardner intrigue

Thirty years after the half-billion dollar Gardner Museum robbery, tiny chips that could be from the stolen Vermeer still intrigue some investigators. **B1.**



Gray by day

Tuesday: Rain, clearing late. High 46-51, low 35-40.

Wednesday: Sun returns. High 48-53, low 35-40.

Comics and weather, **C9-10.**